

In the claims: Please change the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A method, comprising:

a first authentication server and other authentication servers each receiving respective unique realm names;

the first authentication server receiving a request for authentication of a terminal;~~and~~

during authentication between the terminal and the first authentication server, the first authentication server transmitting to the terminal a reauthentication identity including the unique realm name assigned to the first authentication server;

an authentication network element receiving a request for reauthentication transmitted by the terminal using the reauthentication identity including the unique realm name; and

the authentication network element determining the unique realm name indicating the authentication server that performed the full authentication by the authentication network element from the reauthentication identity included in the request for reauthentication.

2. Cancelled

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 12, further comprising:

the authentication network element forwarding the request to the authentication server indicated by the unique realm name

included as part of the reauthentication identity; and

the terminal and the authentication server indicated by the unique realm name performing reauthentication.

4. (Currently amended) An authentication server, comprising:

means for performing authentication; and

means for transmitting to a terminal requesting authentication a reauthentication identity including a unique realm name uniquely identifying the authentication server;

means for performing reauthentication of the terminal upon receipt of a request for authentication conveying the reauthentication identity including a unique realm name uniquely identifying the authentication server; and

means for receiving a request by a terminal for reauthentication, wherein the request includes the reauthentication identity, and for determining from the reauthentication identity the unique realm name included in the request.

5. Cancelled.

6. (Currently amended) The~~An~~ authentication server as in claim 45, further comprising:

means for forwarding the request to another authentication server if the unique realm name indicates another~~the other~~ authentication server.

7. (Currently amended) A computer program product comprising: a computer readable storage structure embodying computer program

code thereon for execution by a computer processor in an authentication server, wherein~~with~~ said computer program code includes~~comprising~~ instructions ~~for~~ for:

transmitting to a terminal requesting authentication a reauthentication identity including a unique realm name uniquely identifying the authentication server;

receiving a request by a terminal for reauthentication, wherein the request includes the reauthentication identity; and

determining from the reauthentication identity the unique realm name included in the request.

8. Cancelled.

9. (Currently amended) TheA computer program product as in claim 7, further comprising instructions for forwarding the request to another authentication server if the unique realm name indicates another ~~the other~~ authentication server.

10. (Previously presented) A system, comprising a plurality of terminals, a plurality of authentication servers, and at least one content server, the terminals operative so as to request content from the content server after authentication and occasional reauthentication with one or another of the authentication servers, wherein at least two of the authentication servers are as in claim 4.

11. Cancelled.

12. (Previously presented) A system, comprising a plurality of terminals, a plurality of authentication servers, and at least one content server, the terminals operative so as to request content

from the content server after authentication and occasional reauthentication with one or another of the authentication servers, wherein at least two of the authentication servers are as in claim 6.

13. (Previously presented) A terminal, comprising:

means for requesting reauthentication of a communication session between the terminal and a content server;

means for receiving from a first authentication server a reauthentication identity including a unique realm name assigned to the first authentication server; and

means for transmitting to an authentication network element a request for reauthentication using the reauthentication identity including the unique realm name.

14. (Currently amended) TheA terminal as in claim 13, wherein the means for transmitting to an authentication network element a request for reauthentication using the reauthentication identity including the unique realm name includes the reauthentication identity in an identity response packet according to an Extensible Authentication Protocol.

15. (Currently amended) An authentication server, comprising authentication protocol components configured to:

perform authentication;~~and~~

transmit to a terminal requesting authentication a reauthentication identity including a unique realm name uniquely identifying the authentication server;

perform reauthentication of the terminal upon receipt of a request for authentication conveying the reauthentication

identity including a unique realm name uniquely identifying the authentication server; and

determine from the reauthentication identity the unique realm name included in the request for reauthentication, wherein the request includes the reauthentication identity.

16. (Currently amended) ~~The~~An authentication server as in claim 15, wherein the comprising authentication protocol components configured to are further configured to:

determine from the reauthentication identity the unique realm name included in a request in by a terminal for reauthentication, wherein the request includes the reauthentication identity.

17. (Currently amended) ~~The~~An authentication server as in claim 16, wherein the comprising authentication protocol components configured to are further configured to:

forward the request to another authentication server if the unique realm name indicates another~~the other~~ authentication server.

18. (Previously presented) An authentication network element, comprising:

means for determining from a reauthentication identity included in a request for reauthentication transmitted by a terminal a unique realm name included in the request and uniquely indicating an authentication server; and

means for preparing a message for forwarding the request to the authentication server indicated by the unique realm name.

19. (Previously presented) An authentication network element, comprising authentication protocol components configured to:

determine from a reauthentication identity included in a request for reauthentication transmitted by a terminal a unique realm name included in the request; and to

prepare a message for forwarding the request to the authentication server indicated by the unique realm name.

20. (Currently amended) A terminal, comprising a processor configured to:

~~request~~ means for ~~requesting~~ reauthentication of a communication session between the terminal and a content server;

~~means for receiving~~ receive from a first authentication server a reauthentication identity including a unique realm name assigned to the first authentication server; and

~~means for transmitting~~ transmit to an authentication network element a request for reauthentication using the reauthentication identity including the unique realm name.

21. (Currently amended) A terminal as in claim 20, wherein ~~the means for transmitting~~ to an authentication network element a request for reauthentication using the reauthentication identity including the unique realm name, the processor is configured to include the reauthentication identity in an identity response packet according to an Extensible Authentication Protocol.

22. (Previously presented) A terminal, comprising authentication protocol components configured to:

request reauthentication of a communication session between the terminal and a content server;

obtain from a message from a first authentication server a reauthentication identity including a unique realm name assigned to the first authentication server; and

transmit to an authentication network element a request for reauthentication using the reauthentication identity including the unique realm name.

23. (Currently amended) TheA terminal as in claim 22, wherein the authentication protocol components are further configured to include the reauthentication identity in an identity response packet according to an Extensible Authentication Protocol.